

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1 1. A method for advanced network viewing, comprising:
2 accessing a first site;
3 querying at least one of a link and a second site linked to said first site;
4 generating a representation of said linked second site;
5 communicating the representation wherein the communicated representation
6 enables a user to preview the linked second site.

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1 2. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the querying step includes
2 limiting the scope of the query by including a defined limitation.

1 3. The method as described in claim 2, wherein the limiting step includes at least
2 one of a hierarchy and number of links.

1 4. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the generating step includes
2 forming a thumbnail representation of the linked second site.

1 5. The method as described in claim 4, wherein the thumbnail representation is
2 formed by taking a snapshot of the linked second site.

1 6. The method as described in claim 1, further comprising storing the
2 representation.

1 7. The method as described in claim 6, further comprising periodically updating
2 the stored representation by at least one of the linked second site and the first site.

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1 8. The method as described in claim 7, wherein the updating step is performed
2 during idle time.

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1 9. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the communicating step includes
2 displaying the representation in a separate window.

1 10. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the communicating step includes
2 displaying the representation as part of display of the first site so that the
3 representation may be viewed as a component part of the first site.

1 11. The method as described in claim 10, wherein the representation is displayed
2 proximally to the link.

1 12. The method as described in claim 1, wherein if the linked second site is not
2 accessible, generating a representation indicating that the linked second site is not
3 accessible.

1 13. The method as described in claim 1, wherein the generating step includes
2 correlating descriptive information with a representation.

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- 1 14. A program of instructions storable on a medium readable by an information
2 handling system for causing the information handling system to execute steps for
3 advanced network viewing, the steps comprising:
4 accessing a first site;
5 querying at least one of a link and a second site linked to said first site;
6 generating a representation of said linked second site;
7 communicating the representation wherein the communicated representation
8 enables a user to preview the linked second site.

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- 1 15. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the querying
2 step includes limiting the scope of the query by including a defined limitation.

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- 1 16. The program of instructions as described in claim 15, wherein the limiting step
2 includes at least one of a hierarchy and number of links.

- 1 17. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the generating
2 step includes forming a thumbnail representation of the linked second site.

- 1 18. The program of instructions as described in claim 17, wherein the thumbnail
2 representation is formed by taking a snapshot of the linked second site.

- 1 19. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, further comprising
2 storing the representation.

- 1 20. The program of instructions as described in claim 19, further comprising
2 periodically updating the stored representation by at least one of the linked second site
3 and the first site.

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- 1 21. The program of instructions as described in claim 20, wherein the updating
2 step is performed during idle time.

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- 1 22. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the
2 communicating step includes displaying the representation in a separate window.

1 23. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the
2 communicating step includes displaying the representation as part of the first site so
3 that the representation is viewed as a component part of the first site.

Q1 1 24. The program of instructions as described in claim 23, wherein the
2 representation is displayed proximally to the link.

1 25. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein if the linked
2 second site is not accessible, generating a representation indicating that the linked
3 second site is not accessible.

1 26. The program of instructions as described in claim 14, wherein the generating
2 step includes correlating descriptive information with a representation.

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1 27. An information handling system for advanced network viewing, comprising:
2 a processor for executing a program of instructions on the information
3 handling system;
4 a memory coupled to the processor for storing the program of instructions
5 executable by said processor; and
6 an input and output system coupled to the processor for coupling the
7 information handling system to a network wherein the program of instructions
8 configures the information handling system to
9 access a first site;
10 query at least one of a link and a second site linked to said first site;
11 generate a representation of said linked second site;
12 communicate the representation wherein the communicated
13 representation enables a user to preview the linked second site.

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1 28. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the
2 network includes at least one of the Internet, world wide web, bulletin board service,
3 file transfer protocol site, local area network, and wide area network.

1 29. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein query
2 instruction includes a limiting instruction thereby limiting the scope of the query by
3 including a defined limitation.

1 30. The information handling system as described in claim 29, wherein the
2 limiting instruction includes at least one of a hierarchy and number of links.

1 31. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the
2 generate instruction includes forming a thumbnail representation of the linked second
3 site.

1 32. The information handling system as described in claim 31, wherein the
2 thumbnail representation is formed by taking a snapshot of the linked second site.

1 33. The information handling system as described in claim 27, further comprising
2 storing the representation.

1 34. The information handling system as described in claim 33, wherein the stored
2 representation may be periodically updated by at least one of the linked second site
3 and the first site.

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1 35. The information handling system as described in claim 34, wherein the
2 periodically updated stored representation is updated during idle time.

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1 36. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the
2 communicate instruction includes displaying the representation in a separate window.

1 37. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the
2 communicate instruction includes displaying the representation as part of the first site
3 so that the representation is viewed as a component part of the first site.

1 38. The information handling system as described in claim 37, wherein the
2 representation is displayed proximally to the link.

1 39. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein if the
2 linked second site is not accessible, generating a representation indicating that the
3 linked second site is not accessible.

1 40. The information handling system as described in claim 27, wherein the
2 generate instruction includes correlating descriptive information with a representation.

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1 41. An information handling system for advanced network viewing, comprising:
2 a processor for executing a program of instructions on the information
3 handling system;
4 a memory coupled to the processor for storing the program of instructions
5 executable by said processor; and
6 an input and output system coupled to the processor for coupling the
7 information handling system to a network wherein the program of instructions
8 configures the information handling system to include
9 means for accessing a first site;
10 means for querying at least one of a link and a second site linked to
11 ~~said~~ first site;
12 means for generating a representation of said linked second site;
13 means for communicating the representation;
14 wherein the communicated representation enables a user to preview the
15 linked second site.

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1 42. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the
2 network includes at least one of the Internet, world wide web, bulletin board service,
3 file transfer protocol site, local area network, and wide area network.

1 43. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein querying
2 means includes a defined limitation thereby limiting the scope of the query.

1 44. The information handling system as described in claim 43, wherein the
2 limitation includes at least one of a hierarchy and number of links.

1 45. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the
2 generating means includes forming a thumbnail representation.

1 46. The information handling system as described in claim 45, wherein the
2 thumbnail representation is formed by taking a snapshot.

1 47. The information handling system as described in claim 41, further comprising
2 means for storing the representation.

1 48. The information handling system as described in claim 47, wherein the stored
2 representation may be periodically updated by at least one of the linked second site
3 and the first site.

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1 49. The information handling system as described in claim 48, wherein the
2 periodically updated stored representation is updated during idle time.

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1 50. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the
2 communicating means includes displaying the representation in a separate window.

1 51. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the
2 communicating means includes displaying the representation as part of the first site.

1 52. The information handling system as described in claim 51, wherein the
2 representation is displayed proximally to the link.

1 53. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein when the
2 linked second site is not accessible the generating means utilizes a representation
3 indicating that the linked second site is not accessible.

1 54. The information handling system as described in claim 41, wherein the
2 generating means includes means for correlating descriptive information with a
3 representation.

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1 55. A system for advanced network viewing, comprising:
2 a first site; and
3 a second site linked over a network to said first site;
4 wherein the second site provides a representation of said second site to said
5 first site so that a user may access said first site and preview said second site.

1 56. The system as described in claim 55, wherein the network includes at least one
2 of the Internet, a local area network, and a wide area network.

1 57. The system as described in claim 55, further comprising storing the
2 representation.

1 58. The system as described in claim 57, wherein the stored representation may be
2 periodically updated by at least one of the second site and the first site.

1 59. The system as described in claim 58, wherein the periodically updated stored
2 representation is updated during idle time.

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